

Mission

Understand the role of latent heating fluxes in the climate system, including energy transport and role in weather phenomena

Requires 'best' LH flux data for a set of TBD scales and applications, including global water and energy balance, to smaller space-time scale of individual extreme events

Satellite era datasets (1988-present)

WG Goals

Understand and characterize variability/uncertainties within land and ocean LH datasets, and variability between data sets

Include regional assessments and collaboration/consistency with other WGs (climatology, modeling, etc.) towards improved global product

Identify 'best' dataset building/comparison practices

Provide integrated products that can be used for benchmarking, and for WG and NEWS synthesis questions

New and Future Initiatives

Build observational database from existing ocean and land sources

Begin assessment of NEWS and other LH products

Regional ocean and land water budget studies

Analysis of LH flux in extreme events, e.g. hurricanes

Energy transport

Use of isotopic studies to constrain LH flux estimates

Potential achievements over next 5 years

Hopefully all of above goals

Paper

Maybe premature at this time for this group, however we discussed

Global analysis of LH flux products (NEWS, others, Trenberth) to converge on a NEWS recommendation/benchmark, or at least a median/mean with spread

Some measure of uncertainty
Regional comparisons to observations

Obstacles

Manpower and leadership
Need more time for group discussion to let ideas mature

Working group collaboration strategy (telecons, collaboration tools, etc.)

TBD
Global water and energy cycle group provides good template